



News

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Cal Poly Ethics Group Joins Military Technology Consortium

SAN LUIS OBISPO – The Ethics + Emerging Sciences Group at Cal Poly has announced it is now an institutional member of the Consortium for Emerging Technologies, Military Operations and National Security (CETMONS).

CETMONS focuses on military and national security issues arising in this era of unprecedented and complex technological evolution. Some of the technologies of interest include nanotechnology, neurotechnology, human enhancements, robotics, cyberweapons and nonlethal weapons.

Patrick Lin, director of the Ethics + Emerging Sciences Group, will join the consortium's executive board, which has responsibility for CETMONS programs and activities such as research, teaching, outreach, public service and policy development. Lin has been active in CETMONS as a group associate since 2009, as an ethics fellow at the US Naval Academy.

"The need for an organization like CETMONS has never been more urgent, given the difficult times and the accelerating progress of critical, game-changing technologies," Lin said. "We're excited about our expanded role. Our collaborative work has already resulted in a forthcoming journal paper in 'Columbia Science and Technology Law Review' on military robots and a grant from The Greenwall Foundation to study military human enhancements. We expect more great things from this relationship."

Founded by ethics centers at Arizona State University, Case Western Reserve University, and the US Naval Academy, CETMONS includes researchers from Georgia Institute of Technology, University of Notre Dame, Rutgers University, the US Naval Postgraduate School, the US Air Force Academy and Australian National Defence University. Beyond academia, CETMONS also includes senior personnel from General Dynamics, the US Navy Office of Strategic Systems Programs and the Pentagon. For more information about the consortium, visit www.cetmons.org.

About Ethics + Emerging Sciences Group

Based at Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo, the Ethics + Emerging Sciences Group is a non-partisan research and educational organization focused on the risks and ethical and social impacts of emerging technologies. Current projects and interests are related to issues in robotics, human enhancement, nanotechnology, geoengineering, space development and other areas. For more information, visit <http://ethics.calpoly.edu>.

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